

REMARKS

Claims 25-40 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 25-27, 29, and 32-38 are amended. Also, FIGS. 3, 4, and 6 are replaced. No new matter is added.

Support for the amendments to claims 25, 33, and 35 is found, for example, in paragraphs [0002], [0021], and [0028] of the Specification, and FIGS. 4 and 6 of the figures. Claims 26, 27, 29, 32, 34, and 36-38 are amended for clarity. FIGS. 3, 4, and 6, are replaced to correct obvious errors.

For the following reasons, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §101:

On page 2, item 3 of the Office Action, claims 25-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for allegedly directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 25 and 33 are amended to obviate the rejection. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

On page 3, item 5 of the Office Action, claims 25-40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 over Nonomura et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,118,445). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Nonomura fails to disclose or suggest a program that selects one interactive graphics stream among one or more interactive graphics streams used to control reproduction of audio-visual data based on attribute information, and the one interactive graphics stream is selected by the program to be reproduced with the audio-visual data, as variously defined in claims 25, 33, and 35.

Nonomura is directed to a computer program referred to as an editor to edit the reproduction route and linked state of system streams to prevent logical errors in creating DVD video content (see, for example, col. 2, lines 44-54 of Nonomura). Nonomura uses a graphic user interface (GUI) to edit and produce various different versions of a "title", such as a movie. More concrete examples of the title include a "multiscene" title having multiple camera angles (see, for example, col. 13, line 57-col. 14, line 55 of Nonomura), and multi-rated title having different rated versions of a movie (see, for example, col. 14, line 57-col. 15, line 56 of Nonomura). According to Nonomura, having a "multiscene" title enables a user to change the

content of the same title by enabling the user select a scene in a mutiscene period freely and in real time, and having a multi-rated title enables parents to lock out content that is inappropriate for minors.

Therefore, Nonomura uses a GUI program to arrange different scenes for reproduction during playback (see, for example, col. 15, lines 15-50 of Nonomura). However, Nonomura is silent as to a program that selects one interactive graphics stream among one or more interactive graphics streams used to control the audio-visual data based on attribute information, and the one interactive graphics stream is selected by the program to be reproduced with the audio-visual data.

Accordingly, claims 25, 33, and 35 are patentably distinguishable over the applied reference to Nonomura. Claims 26-32, which depend from claim 25, claim 34, which depends from claim 33, and claims 36-40, which depend from claim 35, are likewise patentably distinguishable over the applied reference for at least the reasons discussed above, and for the additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

INTERVIEW:

In the interest of expediting prosecution of the present application, Applicants respectfully request that an Examiner interview be scheduled and conducted. In accordance with such interview request, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner, after review of the present Amendment, contact the undersigned local Washington, D.C. attorney at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number (202) 216-9505 ext. 230 for scheduling an Examiner interview, or alternatively, refrain from issuing a further action in the above-identified application as the undersigned attorneys will be telephoning the Examiner shortly after the filing date of this Amendment in order to schedule an Examiner interview. Applicants thank the Examiner in advance for such considerations. In the event that this Amendment, in and of itself, is sufficient to place the application in condition for allowance, no Examiner interview may be necessary.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is

requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR §1.136. If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 503333.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date:

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